CONFESSION

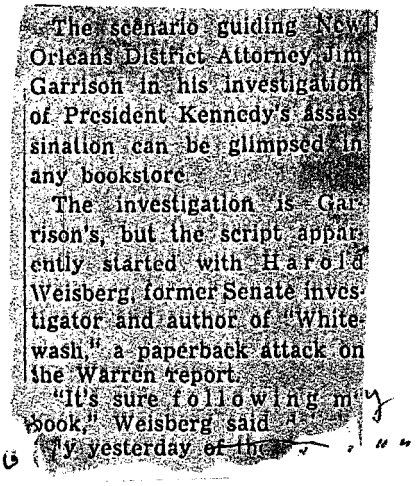
Farewell America and all else in this book is very much related to the late Jim Garrison, former district attorney of New Orleans and the man who tried the late Clay Shaw as a conspirator in the assassination of JPresident ohn F. Kennedy.

He asked me to testify before his New POrleans grand jury but I postponed that a few weeks to cokplete my book, Oswald in New Orleans, then nearing completion.

After I testified, in une of k 67, I went to New Orleans on a number of occasion, to see what I could lear about Oswald. I did no work on Shaw.

I knew pretty early that Garrison has rather much plagiarized from my firsy nbook , the firsgt book on the Warren Commission and on the assassination. This was so obvious that newspapers commented on it. I printed the leads of two of thos stories on the back cover of Photographic Whitewash, which was published at about that time.

The Washington Post's story begins:

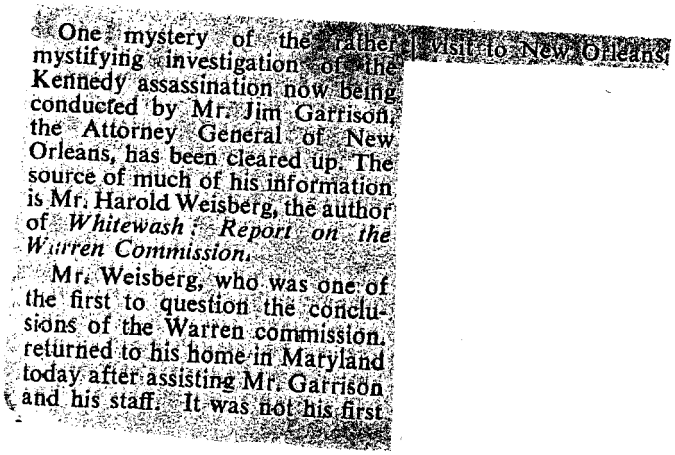


The scenario guiding New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison in his investigation of President Kennedy's assassination can be glimpsed in any bookstore.

The investigation is Garrison's, but the script apparently started with Harold Weisberg, former Senate investigator and author of "Whitewash," a paperback attack on the Warren report.

"It's sure following my book," Weisberg said [illegible]y yesterday of the [illegible]"

That of the Times of London begins:



One mystery of the rather mystifying investigation of the Kennedy assassination now being conducted by Mr. Jim Garrison, the Attorney General of New Orleans, has been cleared up. The source of much of his information is Mr. Harold Weisberg, the author of *Whitewash: Report on the Warren Commission.*

Mr. Weisberg, who was one of the first to question the conclusions of the Warren commission, returned to his home in Maryland today after assisting Mr. Garrison and his staff. It was not his first visit to New Orleans. . . .

After he got warmed up, so to speak, Garrison made some preetty wild observations about the assassination and from time to time when I was in New Orleans I chided him about them. Each time he smiled and said, in approximately these words each time, They are giving me trouble so I'm giving them so trouble, too,"

I believed that longer than I should have and for that I apologize him.

In time I realized that if anyone wanted to give him trouble, for Garrison was doing more than enough it was not necessary for them to do a thing, that Garrison was ~~gxxxxx~~ ~~gxxxg~~ ~~xkxxx~~ for them, for his enemies by better than anyone ~~eosadcould~~ could do to him. And he was doing it himself with all this wild statements. He attributed what he was doigf to himself to the CIA.

But the wilder the more impossible what he said was, the more popular it was with most of the assassijation critics.

But I should have realized it before I did.

I now do not remember exactly when that was but it wwas well before early November, 1968. My attitude was well kmown to his staff because two of them asked me, as I was prparing to return home, to

to please stay and do for them what they had been unable to do to prevent h Barrison from doing what would in many ways have been worse that what he was doing toClat Shaw.

I' d been away from hôme a month and had stopped off in New Orleans on my way home. I told them I w swas not certain that I or anyone else c uld do what they asked but that as soon as I could I'd return and make the effort.

We come to that, in detail.

I regarded and still regard BGarrison as a great ~~xxx~~ tragedy.

He was, aside frombeing an a le lawyer, an articulate, sophisticated inteeligent intellectual with a sense of humor ~~do f~~dray it crackled.

And he did have opportunties he did nothing about. They were not big enough to satisfy. One was perjury. He could have convicted several of that and perhaps have begun to make it impossible for the media, which endorsed the impossible Warren Report and in one way or another assailed thos who did not, to continue to f fail to meet its responsibilities, as all od f it did from the veery first. The media, and not the media alone, failed to met kts responsibilities to the country and to itself.

While all the media, ~~xxx~~ all the brnaches of government and other institutions all failed, it wq was most of the all the media which made the knowingly false "solution" to the assassination possible. It also enabled all the othe failures.

-n that tim of greatest crisis, tragically, all the institutions of a free society failed.

And they have all continued to fail for the thirdty-eight years since the assassination that, like all assassinations of any president, was a de facto dcoup d'etat t at neither the media nor any other institution told the people.

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